Setting up of IITs in the Country

2895. SHRIMATI ELA RAMESH BHATT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the IIT Act has been amended for setting up the same in Assam;

(b) whether Government propose to further amend the IIT Act to facilitate the setting up of IITs in the country: and

(c) if so, whether IITs are proposed to be set up in each of the States in due course?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) to (c) The Government propose to amend the IIT Act to include therein the sixth IIT being set up in Assam. There is no proposal under consideration of the Government to establish any more IITs in the country.

Voluntary Bodies for Eye Care

2896. SHRIMATI ELA RAMESH BHATT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether voluntary bodies are vital for eye-care and if so, the steps taken in the matter all over the country; and

(b) what is the number of such bodies that exist all over the country State-wise and the cases handled by them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Yes, Sir. The Voluntary Organisations supplement the efforts of Government in the matter of providing eye care facilities. The Voluntary Organisations are engaged in conducting eye camps in outreach areas in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Government of India for which they are paid grant-in-aid for intra-ocular operations by the concerned State Government. A Scheme for providing financial assistance to Voluntary Organisations for strengthening eye bank activities has also been formulated.

(b) Since the scheme of grant-in-aid for eye camp has been decentralised, the Voluntary bodies are registered by State Governments.

Memorandum Submitted by DREU, Tondiarpet

2897. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has received a memorandum dated 23rd December, 1987 from Dakshin Railway Employees' Union, Tondiarpet, Southern Railway relating to malpractices in the posting of staff in the break down Gang at Tondiarpet Marshalling Yard giving rise to corruption;

(b) whether it is a fact that well set norms and procedures of posting of staff in the above Gang of Tondiarpet laid down by the former Senior Divisional Mechanical Engineer so that all the eligible staff get equal opportunity to work in the said yard and get monetary benefits, have been grossly violated in recent times;

(c) whether Government have taken concrete steps to check the malpractices in the said yard and to ensure that proper methods and rules are followed in the nomination of staff in the said BD Gang; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The set norms and procedures are not being violated.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.